

The Coconino Sun

VOL. XXI.

FLAGSTAFF, JANUARY 30, 1904.

No. 5

STATEHOOD QUESTION.

An Agreement Reached by Senators. New Mexico Consents to Consolidation. Arizona Opposed to Union.

The statehood question has, so far as Arizona is concerned, reached the acute stage. New Mexico has without any regrets consented to joint statehood, but the movement meets with no favor in Arizona. The following account from Washington explains the situation.

"At a conference of leading republican senators today, it was determined to take up the statehood question again and make an effort to put it through at the present session. Bills on the basis of today's agreement will be introduced soon in the senate by Mr. Quay and in the house by Delegate Rodey of New Mexico. The latter has consented to the proposition of consolidation of Arizona and New Mexico."

The statehood bill will provide for the reference of the entire subject of the people of the several territories involved in the proposed consolidations. It will also provide that Oklahoma shall never abridge the rights of suffrage of its citizens by the adoption of educational qualification laws, similar to those recently enacted in certain southern states."

Santa Fe Earnings.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe reports of the earnings for the month of December show nearly a half million increase in gross, but heavier expenses; which resulted in a decrease in the net earnings.

The gross earnings were \$6,035,716, operating expenses, \$3,796,797; net earnings, \$2,238,918; a decrease of \$93,972 from the same month in 1902; taxes and rentals, \$218,800, leaving the income from operations \$2,020,118. The gross earnings for six months to December 31 were \$35,812,269; operating expenses, \$21,194,289; net earnings, \$14,617,979; an increase of \$1,693,759 for same period in 1902 less taxes and rentals, \$1,123,924, leaving an income from operations of \$13,494,054.

Mexico Rubber Cultivation.

Rubber cultivation is becoming widespread in southern Mexico. There has been a rush by companies into that line of business within the last four years, and rubber plants have been set out in that country by the million. Already there are 5,400,000 trees planted out, and over 11,400,800 plants in nurseries. The work done, or to be done, by rubber companies not reporting, and by private planters, may be taken at a total of over eight million trees planted out in Mexico, chiefly under three years old, apart from the indigenous rubber forest trees.—Torreón Enterprise.

Snake Had Bells On.

The Japanese cook employed at the Rainbow mining camp in the Bradshaw mountains was taking a stroll over the mountains a few days since, when he suddenly put in an appearance at camp in a very highly excited frame of mind. When asked what had disturbed his mental equilibrium to such a degree, he stated that while he was walking over the mountain he

suddenly came across a heap big snake which had bells on it. As he had never seen such a snake before, he hastily returned to camp. Two or three of the men in the camp accompanied him to the spot where he had seen the snake with bells, and on a slight investigation discovered a huge rattlesnake known as a timber rattlesnake. It differs from the ordinary rattlesnake in that it is of a blackish color, and its rattles somewhat resemble the tinkling of small bells. It was an entirely new variety to the Japanese and it is of a specie which is rare in this section.—Journal-Miner.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ITEMS.

Join the home department of the Sunday school if you "can't get up in time" for the regular session.

Why were you not at prayer meeting last Wednesday evening? The chances are ten to one you have not a very good reason if you honestly question yourself.

The Bible Study and Prayer Circle now numbers forty-one members. A meeting for renewal of covenant and informal conference is called for next Sunday afternoon at the church, at 3 o'clock. Every member of the Circle is earnestly urged to be present.

The subject of the morning sermon next Sunday will be "Whom Shall God Send? Who Will Go for God?" The ordination of the two elders elect, Dr. W. P. Sipe and Mr. S. H. Haffly, will take place at this service. All are cordially invited to attend the service.

The first of a series of addresses by the pastor to young people, was given last Sunday evening. The attendance was good and those present were well repaid for coming out. The importance of a worthy purpose in life was forcefully and impressively urged and an earnest appeal to those present to make their lives count for good.

The subject for next Sunday evening's sermon is "Character vs. Material Blessings. Some Great Men Who Have Been Poor" This is a subject of the highest importance, and every young man in Flagstaff who can do so, should hear this topic discussed.

At the Young People's meeting next Sunday evening the first year in the public ministry of Jesus will be reviewed, under the title "The Year of Obscurity." The general spiritual teaching or topic will be "Jesus Dealing With Inquirers," and will be considered under the following subdivisions:

- (a) "With the Earnest Seeker."
- (b) "With the Curious Ruler."
- (c) "With the Outcast."

Two brief readings illustrating points brought out in the lesson, will be given, as follows:

"Conversion," Henry Drummond....
.....Miss Rudd
"The Ladder of St. Augustine," Longfellow.....Miss Beal.

It is expected also that Mr. Blair will sing a solo. All young people are cordially invited to be present, and all members of the society are asked to come and bring their bibles, reading the first four chapters of the Gospel according to St. John before they come.

DEER CREEK COAL FIELDS.

Small in Extent, But May Have a Prospective Value.

Mr. M. R. Campbell, of the United States geological survey, has been making a preliminary examination of the Deer Creek coal fields of Pinal county, Arizona.

This field is of comparatively small extent, and the coal beds are thin, but they may have considerable economic importance, as the field lies within easy reach of the great copper camps of Arizona, the development of which depends in a large measure upon the supply of a moderately cheap fuel. The importance of this inquiry may be appreciated from the fact that wood is difficult to obtain at prices which range from \$8 to \$11 a cord, that coal of average quality retails from \$6 to \$15 a ton, and that coke for the copper smelters costs from \$12 to \$50 a ton, depending upon the distance from the main lines of transportation. These facts give to the Deer Creek coal fields a positive prospective value greatly beyond what it would have were it located in Colorado or near the great coal fields of the eastern states. The Republican says the Deer Creek coal field lies about 85 miles northeast of Tucson and just east of the junction of the San Pedro and Gila river. The field has at present no railroad connection with the outside world, but when the line that is now building up the Gila river above Florence is completed, it will be in reach of most of the large towns and of the great copper producing centers of the region.

The field has an approximate length of ten miles and a known breadth of five or six miles, with the possibility that the coal may be present farther to the southwest than is now known, making the breadth about equal to the length of the field.—Willcox News.

Killed by Falling Log.

On Wednesday, at 1:30 p. m., Jos. R. Ball was killed instantly at John X's camp east of here by the breaking of a skid while loading logs, being struck on the head by a flying timber. His remains were brought to town and interred Thursday, under direction of J. S. Button, in the K. of P. cemetery. Ball had been in the employ of the local lumber company for some time and his funeral was largely attended by companions from the camp and friends in town who saw to it that his remains were given respectable burial. Deceased leaves two children at Barry, Ontario, besides a brother, to whom the sad news was telegraphed.

Drowned in Colorado.

The following report comes from Beal, six miles below Needles, California:

Six Indians and about \$1,200 in gold were lost by the upsetting of a boat in the Colorado river near the Indian reservation a few days ago. James Cundiff and Frank Longmeyer, prospectors, witnessed the accident and managed to save one of the occupants of the boat. The Indians stated that he and his companions had been working in the placer fields on the Arizona side and were on their way to Needles to get provisions. The boat got into a whirlpool and be-

fore the men who were propelling it could get the craft under control it was upset by the others, who became panic stricken. Four of the men never came to the surface and the other two who were lost grappled with each other.

Republican Convention.

The executive committee of the Republican territorial central committee held a meeting at the office of Auditor W. F. Nichols, Phoenix, who is chairman of the committee, Thursday.

Judge Nichols presided over the meeting and H. R. Tritle, member from Maricopa county, acted as secretary in the absence of Secretary George U. Young, of Williams.

Tucson was selected as the place of holding the convention, and Tuesday, March 8, was fixed as the date thereof.

The basis of representation in the convention was fixed at one delegate for each fifty votes cast for Robt. E. Morrison for delegate to congress, and one for each fraction over twenty-five.

The members present were: W. F. Nichols, chairman; E. A. Haggott, Yavapai; Wm. M. Griffith, Yuma; Allen T. Bird, Nogales; W. S. Sturges, Tucson; M. J. Egan, Clifton; H. R. Tritle, Phoenix. Between them they held the proxies of the seven absent members.

Yuma Valley Cotton.

World's Fair Commissioner White left at this office today a sample of cotton raised on the farm of Andrew Greer in the Buma valley, which certainly looks all right. It is pronounced by men familiar with cotton growing to be as fine as that produced in the "cotton belt" of the south. This cotton was grown under the direction of government as an experiment. The seed was furnished for one acre by the agricultural department and Mr. Greer was paid for the use of the ground, for his labor and the necessary expenses in its cultivation, \$75, the government taking the product. The experiment seems to be wholly successful, and evidently there is nothing to hinder cotton growing in Yuma valley. What the estimated yield for the experimental acre is has not been reported. A sample of the product was shipped to St. Louis today with other Yuma county exhibits for the World's fair.—Yuma Sentinel.

Sheep Shearing.

The Mesa correspondent of the Phoenix Republican says George Scott returned from the sheep camp Saturdao and reports he and his brother have 90,000 pounds of wool in the warehouse, this season's crop. They state it is a hardship on the sheep to rob them of their wool at this time, it being so cold the sheep have to keep on the move to keep warm, making it lively for the herders. They intend to return to the mountains to locate a lambing ground where there is water—the Tonto country seems to be the location for lambing.

There are about 400,000 sheep in the valley this season, the sheep will average about six pounds per head, making 2,400,000 pounds of wool the Salt River valley will market this year. The sheep are all looking good.